with the Chief Justice of that High Court. The Government has, therefore, addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other Backward Classes, Minorities and amongst Women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

Kimberlite pipes in A.P.

1383. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified 110 kimberlite pipes (diamond-bearing formations) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of areas of the State identified, so far as kimberlitic areas and the details of findings in these areas;

(c) whether Government is proposing to amend the National Mining Policy for allowing the transfer of mining leases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified 62 kimberlite pipes in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Two major kimberlite fields, namely, Wajrakarur Kimberlite Field (WKF) in Anantapur district and Narayanpet Kiberlite field (NKF) in Mahaboobnagar district have been discovered. 29 kimberlite pipes have been located in WKF of which 18 pipes are diamondiferous and 24 kimberlite pipes have been located in NKF. In between WKF and NKF, 9 kimberlite pipes have been located.

(c) Provision for transfer of mining leases already exists in Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Agreement for exploration of mineral resources

1384. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient details of agreements executed with domestic and foreign companies for exploration and harnessing of mining resources in various States during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the details of economic benefits estimated to be accuring, *inter-alia,* to the State exchequer, consequent to these mining activities;

(c) the nature and intensity of consultations held, if any, with the respective State Governments and other stake holders, in each case;

(d) the details of tribal/rural habitations to be subjected to displacement due to consequent implementation of these mining licenses, State-wise; and

(e) the programmes evolved, if any, for their rehabilitation and livelihood?